

LAKELAND SEWER SYSTEM RULES & REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE DISPOSAL OF FATS, OIL, AND GREASE (FOG)

It is bad for your arteries and it is bad for the City of Lakeland's sewers! Please help in keeping our sewers fat free.

Question: Where does the grease come from?

Answer: It is common knowledge that grease is a byproduct of cooking. Grease can be found in the following:

- Meat fats
- Fish
- Baking goods
- Butter/Margarine
- Shortening
- Lard / Cooking Oil
- Dairy Products
- Mayonnaise
- Food scraps
- Sauces & Gravies

Many times, grease is washed into the plumbing system, usually through the kitchen sink. Grease sticks to the insides of sewer pipes (both on your property and in the streets). Over time, the grease can build up and block the entire pipe.

Garbage disposals do not keep grease out of the plumbing system. Disposals can only shred solid materials into smaller pieces and do not prevent grease from going down the drain. Commercial additives, including detergents that claim to dissolve grease, may pass grease down the line and cause problems in other areas.

Grease can cause the following problems:

- Raw sewage overflowing in your home
- Raw sewage overflowing into yards, streets and neighborhood parks
- Expensive and unpleasant cleanup (paid for by the homeowner)
- Increase in operation and maintenance costs for the sewer department (crating higher sewer fees for residents)

Here are several suggestions to help solve grease problems:

- Never pour grease down sinks, drains or into toilets
- Scrape grease and food scraps from plates, pots, pans, utensils and cooking surfaces into the trash for disposal
- Do not put grease down garbage disposals
- Use strainers/baskets in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids and empty into the trash for disposal